

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/12/21

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0016

LOG NAME: 19NS CARES ACT HUD FUNDS CDBG-CV3 TIER II AWARDS

SUBJECT

(ALL) Approve Awards of Federal Grant Funds in the Amount of \$1,374,564.80 from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Community Development Block Grant and Authorize Execution of Related Contracts

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Approve awards of federal grant funds in the amount of \$1,374,564.80 from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act;
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute contracts for up to eighteen-month terms with the nonprofit agencies for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Community Development Block Grant funds, contingent upon receipt of funding and satisfactory completion of all regulatory requirements; and
3. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to extend contracts for up to one year if an agency or department requests an extension and such extension is necessary for completion of the program, or to amend contracts if necessary to achieve program goals, provided any amendment is within the scope of the program and complies with City policies and all applicable laws and regulations governing the use of the federal grant funds.

DISCUSSION:

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020, to respond to the many impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The CARES Act includes provisions to help local governments prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus, including providing allocations of formula grant funds under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The City was notified by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on April 9, 2020, of its initial award of \$4,360,291.00 in CDBG-CV funds. These funds were subsequently awarded to eligible activities and programs through Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) 20-330 and 20-0471 in May and June of this year. The City was notified on September 11, 2020, of the award of its second allocation of CDBG funds, known as CDBG-CV3, in the amount of \$5,468,206.00. These funds were accepted and partially awarded to eligible activities and programs through Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) 20-0940 on December 15, 2020, including the adoption of the appropriation ordinance and waiver of indirect costs. All funds must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to Coronavirus.

On December 9, 2020, the Community Development Council (CDC) as the City's advisory body for the use of CDBG-CV3 funds approved a funding recommendation for the award of these funds. Four key activities were approved by the CDC for CARES Act funds; emergency rental assistance, employment-related services, childcare related to employment, and youth education/tutoring services. Emergency rental assistance activities address the consolidated plan goal for affordable housing. Childcare and employment-related services address the consolidated plan goal for poverty reduction and household stabilization. Youth education/tutoring services address the consolidated plan goal for childcare/youth tutoring and mentoring.

A five-day public comment period was held from December 22, 2020 to December 29, 2020. Notice of this public comment period was published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, posted on the City's website, and distributed through the City News and other ongoing communications activities of the City Community Engagement Office. Any comments received are maintained by the Neighborhood Services Department in accordance with federal regulations.

A summary of funding recommendations approved by the CDC is provided below. A spreadsheet of funding recommendations is also attached.

It is recommended that \$1,374,564.80 of CDBG-CV3 funds be allocated as shown below. Contracts are recommended for the following agencies and programs in the following amounts:

CARES ACT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG-CV3)

Table 1: CDBG-CV3 AGENCIES

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING AREA	AMOUNT
United Community Centers, Inc.	Child Care for Working Caregivers	Childcare Services	\$80,000.00
Recovery Resource Council	Recovery Support Services	Employment-Related Services	\$75,000.00
The Ladder Alliance	Bilingual Career Instructor	Employment-Related Services	\$200,000.00

Table 1: CDBG-CV3 AGENCIES

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING AREA	AMOUNT
Tarrant County Samaritan Housing, Inc.	Short Term Rental Assistance and Homeless Prevention	Emergency Rental Assistance	\$200,000.00
Volunteers of America Texas Inc.	VOA - Rental Assistance	Emergency Rental Assistance	\$75,000.00
Avance-Dallas, Inc.	Parent-Child Education Program	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$50,000.00
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Tarrant County, Inc.	Expanded Mobile Basic Needs	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$75,000.00
Clayton Child Care, Inc.	Stop 6/Meadowbrook After School	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$180,000.00
Fortress Youth Development Center, Inc.	Fortress After School	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$45,000.00
Fort Worth Museum of Science and History	Little Scholars Program	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$45,000.00
Fort Worth SPARC	Camp SPARC Spring 2021	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$75,000.00
Girls Incorporated of Tarrant County	Academic Coaches for Girls in Fort Worth	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$184,564.80
Literacy United, Inc.	Literacy Intervention Project	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$45,000.00
Rivertree Academy, Inc.	4th & 5th Grade Tutoring & Technology	Youth Education/Tutoring	\$45,000.00
TOTAL CDBG-CV3 CONTRACTS			\$1,374,564.80

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Neighborhood Services Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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